



Urban District of Horbury

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR, 1937.



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Urban District Council of Horbury

Chairman of the Council :
Councillor WALTER TETLEY

Vice-Chairman :
Councillor H. ROWLEY.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee :
Councillor F. R. HUNTER.

Members :

Councillor G. H. AUDSLEY.
Councillor F. J. BAINES.
Councillor H. V. BENNETT.
Councillor H. S. CROOKE.
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Councillor W. TETLEY.
Councillor F. WILSON.

Representative on the Wakefield and District
Small-pox Isolation Hospital Committee :
Councillor F. R. HUNTER.

Medical Officer of Health and Superintendent
of the Isolation Hospital :
HUGH L. NEIL, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging :
JOHN H. HORSFALL, C.R.S.I.

Matron, Addington Isolation Hospital :
Miss M. D. POLE.

Health Visitor and School Nurse :
Miss C. BAMFORD.

District Nurse :
Miss A. R. STREET.

Statistical Summary

Situation : Latitude 52.2 N. Longitude 1.2 W.

Elevation : 89—275 feet.

Area of District : 1,280 acres.

Population : 7,679.

Number of Inhabited Houses : 2,381.

Rateable Value of General Rate : £34,443.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £143 10s. 3d.

Birth-rate : 14.8 per 1,000 of the population.

Death-rate (uncorrected) : 8.2 per 1,000 of the population.

Death-rate (corrected) : 11.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Infantile Death-rate : 35.0 per 1,000 Births Registered.

Zymotic Death-rate : Nil.

Death-rate from Tubercular Diseases : .52 per 1,000
of the population.

Rainfall, 1937 : 28.84 inches.

Urban Council of Horbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1937

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1937.

Horbury is a compact Urban District of some 1,280 acres situated on the left bank of the River Calder, some three miles above Wakefield. The maximum elevation is 275 feet and the minimum 89 feet O.D.

The district is bounded on the north-west by the borough of Ossett, and elsewhere is surrounded by the County Borough of Wakefield and the Wakefield Rural District. The Wakefield and Huddersfield Main Road traverses Horbury from east to west. The West Riding Automobile Company and the Yorkshire Bus Company run good services of Motor Buses through the town from Leeds, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Dewsbury and Ossett, etc.

The London, Midland and Scottish Railway has two stations in the Urban District, and it is here that the Barnsley Branch joins the main line. Water Traffic is carried on by means of the Calder and Hebble Navigation whose Canal passes through the district.

POPULATION.

The population of the district as returned by the Census of 1931 was 7,791. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at the end of 1937 was 7,679. The number of inhabited houses at the Census of 1931 was 2,105, while the number of inhabited houses at the end of 1937 was 2,381.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

There may be said to be three principal aggregations of the population, although these are now practically contiguous, viz.:— (1) The central and older portion of Horbury, pleasantly situated on the crest of the hill and extending on the slope on the south-east to (2) Horbury Junction with its large Railway Waggon works and its growing artisan population, (3) on the slope of the hill to the south-west of Horbury there is a bold escarpment, at the foot of which is Horbury Bridge, and here are situated the Woollen Mills, Oil-works, Dye-house, and the Athletic and Sports Goods Factory.

The district overlies the middle coal measures, consisting of shale, sandstone, etc., and in this locality there is the northern extension of the Barnsley Coal Bed. Near the River and in the valley bottom the soil is alluvial and in other or higher parts the soil is generally clay or marl.

Primarily Horbury is an industrial district, the chief industries being :—Woollen and Worsted Manufacturing, Railway Waggon and Motor Body building, Oil Works, Dyeing, Coal Cutting and other Mining machinery, and the Manufacture of Athletic and Sports Goods, whilst a fair proportion of the male population are employed in the coal mines in the adjacent districts.

Trade in the district has during the year been fairly good, practically all the industries being employed full time, consequently the amount of unemployment among the inhabitants has not been abnormal.

The social and general conditions of the inhabitants of the district are fairly satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1937.

Live Births—				Total		M		F
Legitimate	...	...	...	114	...	68	...	46
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	...	0	...	1
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14.8.								
Still-births	...	...	...	6	...	3	...	3
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still-births, 15.6.								
Deaths	...	...	...	86	...	47	...	39
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.1.								

				Rate per 1,000 Live and Still births	
Deaths from Puerperal causes—				Deaths	
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0	...
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	0	...

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS

under 1 year of age :—

				per 1,000 Births registered	
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	35.0	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				35.0	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				0.0	
Deaths from :—					
Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	15
Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	0

BIRTHS.

The total number of Births registered in the district during 1937 was 114 (68 males and 46 females) which gives an ANNUAL

BIRTH-RATE of 14.8 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of Illegitimate Births was 1 female.

The number of Still-births was 6, giving a rate of .78 per 1,000 of the population.

The following are the birth-rates for the whole country per 1,000 of the population :—

England and Wales—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	14.9
Still-births	...	...	...	...	0.60

125 County Boroughs and Great Towns,
including London—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	14.9
Still-births	...	...	...	...	0.67

148 Smaller Towns (estimated population,
25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	15.3
Still-births	...	...	...	...	0.64

London—

Live Births	...	...	...	...	13.3
Still-births	...	...	...	...	0.54

DEATHS.

The total number of Deaths registered in the district during 1937, was 64 (33 males and 31 females) which is equivalent to an ANNUAL DEATH-RATE (Uncorrected) of 8.2 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of transferable deaths of Horbury residents in Institutions, etc., in other districts was 26. While the number of deaths of persons in Horbury transferable away to other districts was 4.

This brings the total number of Deaths of Horbury residents during 1937 to 86 (47 males and 39 females) which calculated on the estimated population of 7,679, gives a CORRECTED DEATH-RATE of 11.1 per 1,000 of the population.

The causes of Death will be found in Table II.

The Death Rates for the whole country are :—

England and Wales	... ..	12.4	per 1,000 of the population
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	... ..	12.5	Do.
148 Smaller Towns (estimated population 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)	... ..	11.9	Do.
London	... ..	12.3	Do.

The Deaths of Horbury residents outside the district occurred at :—

Clayton Hospital, Wakefield
 County Hospital, Wakefield
 80 Park Lodge Lane (W)
 Manygates Maternity Home
 Scalebor Park, Burley

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of Deaths registered under 1 year of age was 4 (4 males and 0 females).

This gives an INFANTILE DEATH-RATE of 35.0 per 1,000 Births registered.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Hugh L. Neil, M.B., Ch.B.	Medical Officer of Health, and Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital (Part Time).
John H. Horsfall, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors. Diploma Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Public Analyst, Veterinary Inspectors, Health Visitors, Midwives, etc.	Sanitary Inspector ; Inspector of Housing ; Meat and Other Foods ; Dairies and Cowsheds ; Factory and Workshops ; Shops, Petroleum, etc., etc. Superintendent of Scavenging. Under the control and direction of the West Riding County Council.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Valuable service is rendered in the examination of Sputums, Swabs, etc., together with the bacteriological examination and analysis of Milk, Water, etc., by the Staff of the West Riding County Laboratory at Wakefield, to whom great credit is due for the expedient manner in which the specimens and samples sent are dealt with.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious Diseases.

The Urban District Council have a Horse Ambulance which is used only for the removal of ordinary Infectious diseases notified in the district, to the Council's Isolation Hospital at Addington, Horbury.

The Wakefield and District Joint Small-pox Hospital Committee provide a suitable Motor Ambulance for the removal of cases of Small-pox.

(b) General.

The Urban District Council has during the year replaced the old Motor Ambulance with a new Bedford De-luxe Motor Ambulance. The Ambulance is used exclusively for the removal of accident, surgical and maternity cases to such institutions and places as may be necessary.

When not required for cases in our own area, the Urban Council has by arrangement, extended the use of the ambulance to surrounding districts in the Rural area, for removing urgent cases, accident and surgical, to Hospital, etc.

During 1937 the Motor Ambulance has been called upon to make 112 journeys in conveying cases to and from various institutions, etc., viz. :—The General Infirmary, Maternity and Nursing Homes, Leeds—22, Clayton Hospital and Maternity Home, Wakefield—59, County Hospital, Wakefield—13, Dewsbury Infirmary and Staincliffe Institution, Dewsbury—13, other Institutions and places—5.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

(c) General.

There is no Institution in the district from which the services of professional Nurses can be obtained. When such service is required, it is necessary to arrange for Nurses to be brought in from Private Nursing Homes in Leeds, Bradford or Wakefield.

A voluntary society, The Horbury District Nursing Association, upheld entirely by private subscription, works in close co-operation with the Urban District Council, the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, and private practitioners.

This association retains the whole time services of a fully trained Queens Nurse, who will upon request, make daily visits to the homes in cases of sickness, invalidity, etc., and for the purpose of doing dressings, etc., after operations, and also to attend to the general comfort of chronic cases.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

(d) VENEREAL DISEASES.

The centre for the treatment of Venereal Diseases for this area is at the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (consultation and treatment) is under the scheme of the West Riding County Council, and is held weekly at the Wesleyan Schools, School Lane, Horbury.

The Local Medical Officer of Health, School Nurse, and voluntary lady helpers are in attendance. The clinic is well attended by the Mothers with their babies. A most useful and far-reaching work is being done, and the clinic is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

The Medical examination and treatment, also the Dental examination and treatment of School children is carried out by the School Medical, Dental and Nursing Staff of the West Riding County Council, under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The treatment of Tuberculosis is carried out by the Medical Staff of the West Riding County Council, the centre for this district being the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Wakefield.

The following particulars relate to the Hospital accommodation which is available to the inhabitants of the district :—

(1) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Addington Isolation Hospital, at Addington, Horbury, used only for the treatment of cases of Infectious Disease in the Urban District of Horbury. 26 Beds : 3 diseases, viz. : Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever can be treated concurrently.	Owned and supported wholly by the Horbury Urban District Council.
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(2) SMALL-POX.

The Carr Gate Isolation Hospital, Wakefield, and other Institutions by arrangement of the West Riding County Council.	The Wakefield and District Small-pox Joint Hospital Committee.
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(3) TUBERCULOSIS.

Cardigan Sanatorium, near Wakefield.	West Riding County Council.
Crookhill Hall Hospital, near Maltby.	Do.
Eldwick Sanatorium, near Bingley.	Do.
Mitchell Memorial Home, Rawdon.	Do.
Morton Banks Sanatorium, near Bingley.	Do.
Dean Head Sanatorium, near Horsforth.	Do.

and other Institutions by arrangement of the West Riding County Council.

(4) CHILDREN.

The Children's Hospital, Upheld by Private Donations.
Bradford.

(5) GENERAL.

The General Infirmary, Leeds Upheld by Private Donations.
The Royal Infirmary, Bradford Do.

The Eye and Ear Hospital,
Bradford. Do.

Dewsbury and District General
Infirmary, Dewsbury. Do.

The Clayton Hospital, Wake-
field. Do.

The County Hospital, Wake- West Riding County Council.
field.

Every facility is offered by the above Institutions to the inhabitants of the district, which is of inestimable benefit to our residents, and as such are greatly appreciated.

There is no Institutional provision available to the district (other than the Public Assistance Hospitals) providing for unmarried Mothers, illegitimate and homeless children.

MORTUARY.

A modern and fully equipped Mortuary is provided and maintained by the Urban Council upon their premises at the rear of the Town Hall.

The Council by arrangement permit the use of the Mortuary by districts in the Rural area for the purpose of Post-mortem examinations, etc.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district is well served with a supply of good water which is obtained from the Dewsbury, Batley and Wakefield Corporations. The supply taken from Dewsbury and Batley is stored in a service reservoir at Foxroyd, Thornhill, from which service mains serve the central portions of Horbury and the Horbury Bridge district, while the Horbury Junction and Benton Hill parts of the district are supplied direct from the mains of the Wakefield Corporation. A constant supply is available to all houses and premises in the district.

The supply from both sources is quite satisfactory both in quality and quantity, and is controlled by bacteriological examination and chemical analysis monthly, the results of which have been quite satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewerage and drainage of the Urban District is generally satisfactory. The sewerage of the district is collected by the system laid down in 1892—1894, which was further extensively enlarged in 1913, and discharges at the outfall works on the banks of the River Calder at Horbury Junction, being collected in two parts, viz., that from the Eastern portion of the district flowing by gravitation to the precipitation tanks, while that from the Western part flows to a large tank sewer near the works and thence to the sewage well from which it is pumped to the equalising tanks, then to the precipitation tanks, forward on to the sprinklers and humas tanks and finally discharges into the river.

In 1934 the works were further enlarged by the erection of two new percolating filters, each 110 feet in diameter, the abolition of the old steam plant and the installation of electrically driven unchokeable pumps, automatically controlled. By this arrangement the treatment of sewage is effected over the 24 hours instead of 16 hours as was the case with the old steam plant.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The law relating to the prevention of the pollution of Rivers and Streams in the Urban Area, is administered by the West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board.

SCHOOLS.

The elementary Day Schools serving the district, 3 in number are Northfield Lane Council School (Boys, Girls and Infants), St. Peter's Church School (Boys, Girls and Infants), St. John's Church School, Horbury Bridge (Mixed and Infants). All the schools are provided with a good supply of water, and suitable washing accommodation is provided. All the sanitary conveniences in connection with the schools are on the water carriage system.

The children attending the Day Schools are periodically examined by the County Medical and Dental Inspectors and School Nurses appointed for that purpose.

Full particulars and details relating to closet accommodation, scavenging of the district, inspection of districts for nuisances and defects, food inspection, etc., and the work carried out in connection therewith will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector appended.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

The number of Inhabited houses in the district as returned by the Census of 1931 was 2,105. The approximate number of inhabited houses in the district at the end of 1937 was 2,381.

During 1937 43 new houses have been completed and occupied, all being built by private enterprise.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.	(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	61
		(b)	Number of Inspections made for that purpose	61
	(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	45
		(b)	Number of Inspections made for that purpose	45
	(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	30
	(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	31
2.			Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	0
3.	(a)		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
		(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	16
		(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	33
		(a)	By Owners	33
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	(b)		Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
		(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	15
		(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	0
		(a)	By Owners	0
		(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	30
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in Pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	7
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.	
(a) (i) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of year ...	32
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	32
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	191
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	0
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	19
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	99
(d) We have had no cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after steps have been taken for the abatement of overcrowding.	
(e) The remaining cases of overcrowding are being dealt with and steadily reduced.	

The particulars set out in the foregoing summary relate only to defective conditions found in the course of house-to-house inspection of dwellings under the Housing Act, 1936. Full details of inspection of district, etc., together with nuisances and defects found are set out in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1937 60, viz. :—Scarlet Fever 26, Diphtheria 3, Erysipelas 4, Ophthalmia Neonatorum 1, Pulmonary and other Tubercular diseases 6, Pneumonia 20.

26 cases of Scarlet Fever, 3 cases of Diphtheria and 1 case of Erysipelas were removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital for treatment.

In addition to the above cases the following number of cases, notified in the districts of adjoining authorities, were received into our Hospital for isolation and treatment :—6 cases of Chicken-pox. 5 cases of Erysipelas, and 1 Scarlet Fever.

When cases of Infectious Disease are notified, the dwellings are visited and necessary inquiries made. Defects, dilapidations and the general sanitary conditions are noted, and steps taken to have the same remedied. When complete isolation cannot be maintained at the home the patients are removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital at Addington for treatment, while the premises, clothing, etc., are immediately fumigated with formic aldehyde vapour. Children from the infected houses are prohibited from attending Day or Sunday School and places of public entertainment for a period of 12 days from the time of fumigation of the premises.

Where cases are permitted to be nursed in the homes of the patients, complete isolation is insisted upon, and advice offered as to the precautions that are to be taken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1937.

				Total cases Notified.		Cases admitted to Hospital		Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	26	...	26	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	7	...	1	...	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	20	...	0	...	8

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified and Mortality from Tuberculosis during 1937.

Age Period	New Cases Notified.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 years	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
25 years	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
35 years	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
45 years	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 years	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
65 years and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	1

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the total Deaths from all tubercular diseases during 1937 was four, which is 4.6 per cent. of the total deaths registered from all causes, and giving a Tubercular Death-rate of .52 per 1,000 of the population.

The provisions of The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations with respect to the notification of new cases has been satisfactorily complied with during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

There are no known cases in the district of persons suffering from Tuberculosis being engaged in the production, distribution or handling of Milk.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1925-1936.

On no occasion has it been found necessary for action to be taken regarding the removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, as per Sections 62 and 172 of the above Acts.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken during the year under Sections 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, and Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the prevention of Blindness, or the treatment of persons suffering from disease or injury to the eyes.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

As the official responsible for the carrying out of the many and varied duties coming under this head the Sanitary Inspector deals, in his report which is appended, with the more important branches of the work, such as the inspection of meat and other foods, the supervision and inspection of dairies, Cow-sheds and Milk supply, slaughter-houses, abatement of nuisances, Housing Inspections and re-conditioning, general observations on Housing conditions, removal and disposal of house refuse, etc.

In conclusion I desire to express thanks to the Inspector for his willing co-operation and assistance during the year, and also for the competent and diligent manner in which the work of the department has been carried out by the Inspector and his staff.

I express my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the courtesy and consideration shown to me and for their loyal support during the year under review.

I am, Gentleman,

Your obedient servant,

H. L. NEIL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Horbury.



TABLE 1.
AGES AT DEATH DURING 1937.

		All Ages	Males	Females
Under 1 year	...	4	4	0
1 to 2 years	...	0	0	0
2 to 5 years	...	0	0	0
5 to 15 years	...	2	0	2
15 to 25 years	...	1	1	0
25 to 45 years	...	11	4	7
45 to 65 years	...	30	20	10
65 years and upwards		38	18	20
Totals		86	47	39

TABLE II.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1937.

Causes of Death						Males	Females
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	47	39
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	5	10
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	12	11
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	4	0
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Live Births—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	68	46
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	68	45
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Still Births—							
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0	0

TABLE III.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various stages
under 1 Year of Age.

Causes of Death	1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year of age.
Infantile Asthenia ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Broncho-pneumonia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Marasmus ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Prematurity ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	1	0	0	3	0	0	4

Urban District of Horbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year, 1937

JOHN H. HORSFALL, C. R. S. I.,

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT on the work carried out by my department during the year 1937.

The particulars and details set out in this report deal with the numerous and varied duties performed by the Sanitary staff, and their activities in dealing with the conditions and other influences likely to be detrimental to the public health and well-being of the district, including the strict supervision and inspection of the Meat and other food supplies, which is essential to ensure that the residents of the district have a wholesome and unadulterated food supply.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTORIAL WORK.

During the year 1,476 visits and inspections have been made to various premises in the district for the investigation of complaints, suppression of nuisances and defects, and the supervision of works in progress necessary to ensure that defects and alterations are dealt with in an efficient manner.

930 letters and other communications have been sent out from the department during the year.

1 statutory notice, and 116 informal notices have been served upon owners and occupiers of property, calling for the abatement of nuisances, and the remedying of defects, etc., while in numerous other instances defects and alterations have received attention by my personally calling upon owners and occupiers concerned, and bringing the defects, etc., to their notice.

Nun ber of Nuisances and Defects on the Books at the end of 1936	...	...	...	...	55
Number of Nuisances and Defects reported during 1937	...	...	...	...	277
					332
Number of Nuisances and Defects remedied during 1937	...	...	...	...	243
					89
Nuisances and Defects on the Books at the end of 1937					

The following summary gives the nature and amount of work executed in the abatement of nuisances and defects, etc., during the year :—

Choked Drains cleared	...	...	...	48
Drains Amended	...	...	...	3
Subsoil Water drained from Cellars	...	...	...	3
New Slop Sinks provided in lieu of stone sinks abolished	...	...	...	29
Sink Waste Pipes trapped off	...	...	...	29
Eaves Gutters and Down Spouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	13
Defective Roofs repaired	...	...	...	10
Living Room Floors re-laid	...	...	...	2
Dampness excluded from floors and walls	...	...	...	12
Ventilation of rooms improved	...	...	...	12
Additional Light provided to rooms	...	...	...	12
Ceilings underdrawn	...	...	...	3
General and Miscellaneous Repairs	...	...	...	43
Additional W.C.s provided	...	...	...	2
Number of houses where the yard surfaces have been paved and drained	...	...	...	13
Privies abolished	...	...	...	2
Middens abolished	...	...	...	2
Keeping of Animals prohibited	...	...	...	6
Vermin removed	...	...	...	1
Foul Accumulations removed	...	...	...	1
Dilapidated Dust Bins renewed	...	...	...	5

CONVERSION OF PRIVY MIDDENS.

The small number of Privies and Pail Closets existing, 20 Privies and 16 Pail Closets, have during the year been slightly reduced by the abolition of 2 Privies and 2 Middens.

With the exception of the few remaining privies and pail closets, all dwellings, schools and business premises are provided with conveniences on the water carriage system.

The Privies, etc. remaining are at present inconvertible owing to the fact of no sufficient sewer being available.

The following is a summary giving the number of water closets, etc., provided, in lieu of Privies and middens abolished, from 1920 to 1937.

No. of Houses	No. of W.C.s provided	Dust Bins provided	Privies abolished	Middens abolished
652	491	501	470	250

The total number of Water Closets in use in the district is approximately 2152.

SCAVENGING.

The collection and disposal of House and Trade Refuse is under the control of the Sanitary Department, and is carried out under my direction and supervision, by the Council's own vehicles and employees.

The collection and transport of refuse to the place of disposal is carried out by Two Motor Waggon (each 30 cwts. capacity). one waggon deals entirely with the clearing of Dust Bins, while the second waggon clears Dry Ashpits, privies, pail closets, cesspools and trade refuse.

In addition to cleansing work the Waggon have, during the year been engaged upon transport work for other departments of the Council for 331 hours. This additional work was carried out without impairing in any way the efficiency of the cleansing work, bringing about a saving of £69 14s. 4d. in hired team labour.

The approximate number of receptacles cleansed by the department is 1,900 Dust Bins, 52 Dry Ashes Places, 34 Privies and Pail Closets and 5 Cesspools. Dust Bins are cleared weekly, privies and pail closets weekly, cesspools fortnightly, and trade refuse is collected weekly.

The total quantity of refuse collected and disposed of by the Cleansing staff during 1937 amounted to 3,527 loads, taken from 99,225 Dust Bins, 1,039 Ashpits, 1,384 privies and 48 Cesspools.

The loads collected and disposed of were made up as follows :
Dust Bins 2,487 loads, ashpits and privies refuse 445 loads, cesspools 190 loads, and trades refuse 428 loads.

The above loadage was disposed of as follows :

Addingford Controlled Tip	...	...	2932 loads
Destroyed by Incinerator	...	...	428 ,,
To land (manurial purposes)	...	...	42 ,,
Sewers	...	...	125 ,,

The nett cost incurred in the collection and disposal of refuse in the district for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1937 was £1189 18s. 9d. (which includes wages, tools, petrol, oils, disinfectants, etc.). During that period 3506 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of at a cost of 6/9½ per load, or approximately 2.3d. per house per week.

The cost per load is higher than that of previous years, this is to be accounted for by the fact that the cost of the small incinerator and building for same being included in the above total given for collection and disposal of refuse. Taking this into account, together with the increased number of houses to be dealt with the cost per load compares favourably with the figure for previous years. Cost

however should not always be taken as the primary factor in the scavenging of a district, but also the regular and efficient manner in which the work is carried out.

The whole of the refuse of the township is disposed of by controlled tipping at Addington, with the exception of a small quantity which is deposited upon farm land for manurial purposes, and trades refuse which is destroyed by incinerator.

No complaints have been received of any nuisances being caused by this method of disposal, which has proved to be entirely satisfactory and economical. Strict supervision is however essential in this method of disposal.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 41 Factories and 28 Workshops on the Register in the district, viz. :—

FACTORIES

Woollen and Worsted Manufacturers	...	4
Mungo Manufacturers	... ..	2
Rug Manufacturers	... ..	1
Rag Mill	... ..	1
Railway Waggon, Motor Body builders		
	and repairers	3
Oil Mill	... ..	1
Dye-works	... ..	1
Athletic Goods Manufacturers	... ..	1
Joiners	... ..	5
Printers	... ..	3
Engineers	... ..	2
Builders and Contractors	... ..	1
Food-preparing premises	... ..	3
Spring Makers	... ..	1
Boot Repairers	... ..	1
Leather Curriers	... ..	2
Motor Engineers	... ..	2
Bakers	... ..	2
Stone Quarry	... ..	1
Laundry	... ..	1
Lubricating Pad Works	... ..	1
Motor Cover Makers	... ..	1
Wool Cutting for Rugs	... ..	1
		41

WORKSHOPS.

Athletic Goods Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Painters and Decorators		...	...	...	4
Tailors	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	2
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers and Sanitary Engineers		...	...	...	3
Milliners	...	...	...	...	1
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	2
Bakers	...	...	...	...	3
Upholsterers	...	...	...	...	1
Rag Sorting	...	...	...	...	1
Leather Goods Workers		...	...	...	2
French Polishers	...	...	...	...	1
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	1
Rug Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners	...	...	...	...	1

 28

During the year 120 visits have been made to Factories and Workshops, including Bakehouses, all of which have generally been found clean and the sanitary conditions satisfactory.

The following table gives a summary of inspectorial work carried out during the year in connection with factories and workshops :—

Premises	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	45	0	0
Workshops (including Work-shop Laundries)	75	0	0
	120	0	0

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness etc.	0	0	0
Sanitary Accommodation :—			
Insufficient	0	0	0
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	0
Not separate for sexes	0	0	0
	1	1	0

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 7 Private Slaughterhouses on the Register in the district. 2 are Registered and 4 are Licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Acts, while 1 is Licensed for a limited period under Section 29 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. All are kept under regular supervision, being visited weekly when slaughtering is in progress. All the premises are in a reasonably good state of repair structurally, and the sanitary conditions are fairly satisfactory.

The slaughter-houses are however much too near surrounding property. They are all well conducted and maintained in as cleanly a condition as the nature of the business carried on will permit.

The walls and ceiling of the slaughter-halls and pining sheds are cleansed and lime-washed at the specified periods, while all garbage, etc., is removed immediately after slaughter.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year special attention has been given to this important and essential branch of public health work, and a great amount of time devoted to the inspection and examination of meat carcasses and other foods.

All the private slaughter-houses have been visited at all times slaughter was in progress, and the retail meat shops, other food stores and food preparing premises have been regularly visited and supervised.

During the year 465 visits have been made to this class of premises for the purpose of ante-mortem and post-mortem examination and inspection of the carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered for human consumption, and also fish, rabbits and poultry and other foods.

During these visits the carcasses and offals of 445 Beasts, 1,203 Sheep, 1,303 Pigs, and 20 Calves have been examined.

It was not found necessary to make any seizures of diseased and unsound food during the year, but the following found to be diseased, or unsound and unfit for human consumption were, upon the conditions being pointed out to the owners at the time of inspection and slaughter, surrendered to me and destroyed.

The carcasses with all organs of 4 Beasts, 5 Pigs, 3 Sheep, 9 Calves, total weight 3,812 lbs. Edible Offals 2,180 lbs. Summary of weights of meat and offals surrendered :—

Beef	...	...	2702 lbs.
Mutton		...	180 lbs.
Pork	...	...	560 lbs.
Veal	...	...	370 lbs.
Beef Offals			1930 lbs.
Pork Offals			250 lbs.

5992 lbs.

2 Tons 13 cwts. 58 lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle (ex- cluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	160	285	20	1203	1303
Number inspected	160	285	20	1203	1303
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	9	3	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	12	40	0	1	12
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	7.5	14	45	.33	1.3
Tuberculosis only ...					
Whole carcasses condemned	0	4	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	48	0	0	10
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	3.7	18.2	0	0	.76

Practically the whole of the visits and inspections carried out at the slaughter-houses were made during the actual progress of slaughter, thereby enabling a thorough examination to be made of the carcasses and all organs, etc., as removed in the course of dressing.

Taken generally the cattle, etc., brought in for slaughter are of a good class, and at no time has any difficulty been experienced in carrying out the duties of inspection, the butchers and slaughtermen have at all times readily afforded me any assistance required.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, Etc.

The Milk supply of the district is all produced locally either in the Urban area or in the adjoining Rural district, none whatever being brought in by rail.

The supply has been plentiful, of good quality and no shortage whatever has been experienced.

No. of persons registered as Cowkeepers	...	8
No. of registered Cowsheds	... ..	14
No. of "Accredited" Producers	...	1
No. of Registered Retail Purveyors	... ..	25
No. of Retail Purveyors of		
" Tuberculin Tested " Milk		1
No. of Retail Purveyors of " Pasteurised " Milk		2

During the year 80 inspections have been made of the premises of the registered cowkeepers and purveyors of Milk. The cleanliness and general sanitary condition of the premises and utensils were found to be satisfactory.

In addition to the above visits the whole of the Dairy Cattle on the registered producers' premises in the district have been visited and examined by the County Veterinary Inspector on two occasions during the year.

During these inspections samples of milk were taken from individual Cows for biological examination, and as the result of these tests 1 Cow withdrawn from a herd in this district was upon slaughter found to be Tubercular.

2 bulk samples of Milk were taken by me and submitted for biological examination, the result of the examination in both cases being negative.

Informal samples of milk have been taken regularly during the year from the retail purveyors during delivery, and tested for dirt content, with good results.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

12 Samples, 9 of Milk and 3 of other Foods, have been purchased in the district during the year by the County Inspector and submitted for analysis under the Sale of Food and Drug (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

All the samples were certified to be genuine.

FISH FRYING.

Fish Frying is a scheduled offensive trade in the Urban District.

There are 12 businesses of this class established in the district. All the shops are fitted with the standard modern type cooking ranges, and have accommodation separate from the shops for the storage of fish and potatoes and the preparation of the same.

All fish is delivered from the merchants headless and filleted, thus reducing any likelihood of nuisance from fish offals, etc., to a minimum. All the premises have been kept under supervision, and on the whole the businesses are well conducted, the cleanliness of the premises and equipment being maintained up to a good standard, while the commodities used have always been found to be of good quality. No complaints have been received at any time respecting this class of premises.

ICE CREAM VENDORS.

We have approximately 15 premises in the district where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold by retail. All the premises were kept under supervision during the season the commodity is in demand.

No cause for complaint could be found with the conditions under which the preparation, manufacture and sale was carried out.

URBAN DISTRICT OF HORBURY.

Report for the year 1937 on the administration of Part X, of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to Canal Boats.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.
Gentlemen,

In accordance with the provisions of Part X of the Public Health Act, 1936, it is the duty of every Local Authority within whose district any part of a Canal is situate, to carry into effect the provisions of Part X of the above Act, and the Regulations made thereunder, and to submit to the Ministry of Health before the 21st day of January in each year a report upon the administration of the said provisions and regulations, and I herewith submit my report for the year 1937.

Although Horbury is a registration authority we have no Canal Boats registered in the Urban District, the part of the Canal passing through the district being only a few hundred yards, and situate at the extreme boundary of our area.

Several visits have been made to the Canal Banks during 1937, but I was not able to board any boats passing through, other than Day Boats, i.e. boats that are not used as dwellings and carry cargoes of coal, etc., short distances only. With the quick road transport facilities of the present day, and the closing-down of large factories and works in our district, who made use of Canal transport, the number of boats passing through has greatly diminished. Inspection here is a difficult matter as boats do not stop on our portion of the Canal, for the discharge of cargoes or other purposes.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Town Hall, Horbury.

4th January, 1938.



SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

8 observations of factory chimneys, each of 30 minutes duration, have been taken during the year, and in 2 cases excessive black smoke was emitted in contravention of the bye-laws in force in the district, and written cautions were sent to the offenders. Numerous informal observations of shorter duration have been taken also, but in none of these case were there excessive emissions.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

61 dwelling houses have been inspected during the year 1937, and dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936, and the Housing Consolidated Regulations, and duly recorded in the Housing Inspection Files Register.

30 of the dwellings inspected were found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost. Representation was made in each case, and demolition orders served upon the owners with respect to same.

In 31 cases dilapidations and defects of such a nature were found to be existing, as to render the dwelling not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, and notices were served upon the respective owners, to execute such works set out in specification attached, as was considered necessary to bring the dwellings up to a reasonable standard of fitness.

During 1937 7 dwellings against which Demolition Orders were operative have been vacated and demolished.

The following are particulars of dwellings against which Demolition Orders were outstanding at the end of 1937 :—

No. of Houses	Position	Result of Action taken.
16	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17. 13, 15 Club Houses, 30, 32 Highfield Road.	All still occupied
3	30, 32, 34 Golden Square	2 vacant, 1 occupied.
6	20, 22, 24, 30, 32, 34 Ranter Fold	1 vacant, 5 occupied.
1	42 New Street	Still occupied.
3	40, 42 High Street, 7 Stringers Yard.	1 vacant, 2 still occupied.
4	2, 4, 6, 12 School Yard	1 vacant, 2 still occupied.
1	11 Church Street	Still occupied.
2	9, 11 Brookes Cottages	Still occupied.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The standard of housing in the district taken on the whole is generally good, and the amount of overcrowding is not great.

The cases of overcrowding existing at the end of the year was 32. These cases will be steadily diminished by re-allocation during 1938.

The Urban District Council has purchased 8 acres of land off Dudfleet Lane, as a site for further houses for which plans and specifications are in course of preparation.

The principal types of houses in the district are those of parlour, living room and 3 bedrooms, and living room, scullery with 2 or 3 bedrooms. All houses of recent construction are provided with baths and hot water services.

The situation and layout of much of the older property in the district, as regards the carrying out of improvements and alterations, etc., is such that it is more practical to deal with houses individually rather than in areas.

It has not been necessary to recourse to legal procedure during the year with respect to notices served under the Housing Acts.

Work in connection with the house-to-house inspection of dwellings under the Housing Act, will be steadily continued during the coming year, in order to comply with the plan of the Minister of Health.

The following is a summary of alterations and repairs carried out to 33 dwellings, reconditioned under the Housing Act during 1938, to which a large amount of time has been devoted in the supervision of the various works, and in interviewing owners, contractors, etc.

Dilapidations to external walls of dwellings made good by cement rough-cast or seam pointing	...	...	...	32
Dampness excluded from walls	...	...	...	15
Back doors broken out at the rear of dwellings	...	...	...	6
Through ventilation provided to living and sleeping rooms	...	...	...	50
Additional window light provided to living and sleeping rooms and staircases	...	...	...	59
New Food Pantries provided	...	...	...	16
Light and ventilation provided to existing food pantries	...	...	...	5
Ceilings underdrawn in plaster	...	...	...	13
Internal walls and ceilings re-plastered	...	...	...	25
Dilapidated floors re-laid or made good	...	...	...	33
Skirting boards fixed to foot of internal walls	...	...	...	15
New Slop sinks provided	...	...	...	22
Sink waste pipes trapped off	...	...	...	24
House Roofs re-slatted or repaired	...	...	...	18
Chimney stacks flashed with lead	...	...	...	7
Defective and dangerous stairs made safe	...	...	...	8

Window frames and sashes in living rooms, staircases and sleeping rooms, renewed or repaired and made to open	47
Eaves gutters and down spouts repaired or renewed	25
General and minor repairs	38
Cellars provided with adequate light and ventilation	8
Yards and footpaths paved	23

PETROLEUM ACTS.

24 premises in the Urban District are licensed for the sale and storage of Petroleum Spirit, etc., in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928, viz., 22 for the sale and storage of spirit, and 2 for the storage of Petroleum Mixture (Cellulose Paint).

20 of the licensed premises store the spirit in underground steel tanks fitted with standard pumps, while on the remaining premises the spirit and mixtures is kept in steel drums stored in the specially constructed fire-proof above ground stores.

All the licensed premises have been regularly visited and inspected during the year, and no contravention of the regulations or conditions specified on the licences have been observed.

The total quantity of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures licensed to be stored is 17,450 gallons.

RAG FLOCKS ACTS.

There are Two factories in the district where small quantities of Rag Flock is manufactured ; little of this material is used locally. Both the factories have been periodically visited during the year and examination made of the flocks manufactured. No samples were however submitted for analysis.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.

The disinfection of premises after all cases of Infectious Disease is carried out immediately after the removal of patients to hospital or after recovery, the method used being formaldehyde vapour and spraying. Premises are also fumigated after other diseases and causes upon a written request being made.

Arrangements are also made for the disinfestation of verminous premises with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas, upon written requests being received from owners and occupiers, who are charged with the cost of carrying out the disinfestation.

Number of Houses or parts disinfected after Infectious Disease	31
Number of Houses disinfected after Deaths from other diseases and causes	6
Number of Verminous houses disinfested	2

Where cases of Infectious Disease are notified the dwellings of the patients are inspected, the sanitary condition ascertained, defects and nuisances (in any) noted and steps taken to have the same remedied.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their kind consideration of matters referred to them, and to the Medical Officer of Health and other Officials for their ready assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Town Hall, Horbury.

30th April, 1938.



HORBURY :

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